

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A structural framework comprised of one pair of elongated bars, a tube portion disposed between the elongated bars, at least one shield fitted on the tube portion, a cap positioned at an end of the elongated bars, ~~and~~ in which the cap is formed with at least one shoulder segment and the at least one shoulder segment is welded to the shield, the cap being sized to overlap the tube portion and an adjacent portion of the at least one shield.

Claim 2 (original): The structural framework according to claim 1, in which the elongated bars extend in a direction transverse to the longitudinal axis of the tube portion.

Claim 3 (original): The structural framework according to claim 1, including means for fastening the elongated bars together.

Claim 4 (original): The structural framework according to claim 1, in which the cap is welded to at least one of the elongated bars.

Claim 5 (cancelled).

Claim 6 (cancelled).

AMENDMENT**Attorney Docket No.: Case 7071****Patent Application Serial No. 10/802,688****Reply to Office Action of April 4, 2007**

Claim 7 (currently amended): A structural framework comprised of at least one pair of elongated bars, a tube portion disposed between the elongated bars, the tube portion having a side periodically subjected to the action of a stream of blowing fluid cleaning medium, spaced protective shields mounted on said side of the tube portion, means for fastening the elongated bars together, a cap positioned at an end of the elongated bars in which the cap is formed with shoulder segments and the shoulder segments are welded to the adjacent protective shield, the cap being sized to overlap the tube portion and adjacent portions of the protective shields thereby covering any gaps exposing said side of the tube portion to the action of the fluid cleaning medium.

Claim 8 (original): The structural framework according to claim 7, in which the elongated bars extend in a direction transverse to the longitudinal axis of the tube portion.

Claim 9 (original): The structural framework according to claim 7, in which the cap is welded to at least one of the elongated bars.

Claim 10 (cancelled).

Claim 11 (cancelled).